

REMARKS

The application includes claims 16-20 prior to entering this amendment.

The examiner rejects claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aziz ("*Privacy and Authentication for Wireless Local Area Networks*") in view of Ichikawa et al. (U.S. Patent 6,307,837).

The applicants amend claims 16 and adds claim 21.

The application remains with claims 16-21 after entering this amendment.

The applicants add no new matter and request reconsideration.

Claim Rejections Under § 103

The examiner rejects claims 16-20 as obvious over Aziz in view of Ichikawa. The applicants disagree for the reasons that follow.

Claim 1 recites *transmitting the first and second authentication messages to an authentication server after validating the access point and the wireless device without going through the firewall means*. Claim 21 recites *an authentication server ... by authenticating the wireless device, the wireless device operator, and the access point without going through the firewall responsive to receiving the first and second authentication messages from the access point and responsive to a request from the wireless device and the wireless device operator to access the wired LAN*.

The examiner acknowledges that Aziz does not disclose transmitting the first and second authentication messages to an authentication server after validating the access point and the wireless device without going through the firewall. The examiner, however, alleges Ichikawa discloses "an authentication server on the same network as the access point, where the authentication server guards access to the gateways also located on said network when a *similar* authentication procedure is followed." Office action, page 4.

Ichikawa discloses a method of packet transfer to resolve fraudulent access to user LANs through falsified source addresses. Abstract. Ichikawa's authentication server 1-8 "stores a terminal information table and, when wireless packet terminal 1-7 is ready to start communication, provides terminal information to any wireless base station 1-6." Column 7,

lines 24-27. Rather than the server 1-8 guarding access to the gateways, as the examiner alleges, the server 1-8 “forwards terminal information notice” to the wireless base station 1-6 after receiving terminal information request 2-2 from the wireless base station 1-6. Column 7, lines 51-55. The server 1-8 stores the terminal information notice in a terminal information table. The terminal information table comprises “at least terminal addresses, VLAN-IDs, and an encryption key specific to each terminal as necessary information for authenticating the terminal.” Column 7, lines 24-31. Ichikawa’s server 1-8, therefore, does not *receive the first and second authentication messages* much less receive those messages *after validating the access point and the wireless device without going through the firewall means* as recited in claim 1. Likewise, Ichikawa’s server 1-8 does not authenticate *the wireless device, the wireless device operator, and the access point without going through the firewall responsive to receiving the first and second authentication messages from the access point and responsive to a request from the wireless device and the wireless device operator to access the wired LAN* as recited in claim 21.

The examiner further alleges that Ichikawa’s server 1-8 could be included in Aziz’ system to “permit end-to-end authentication from the wireless device to any additional LANs that the operator of said wireless device may choose to access.” In Aziz’ system, however, there is no need for an authentication server since both ends of the wireless link are able to “authenticate each other,” without need to additionally transmit messages #1 and #2 to an authentication server 1-8 as described in Ichikawa. Furthermore, even if messages #1 and messages #2 were transmitted to Ichikawa’s authentication server 1-8, it would presumably return only terminal information contained within its terminal information table. Ichikawa’s server 1-8 does not validate *the operator, the wireless device, and the access point without going through the firewall means responsive to the requesting* as required by the claims.

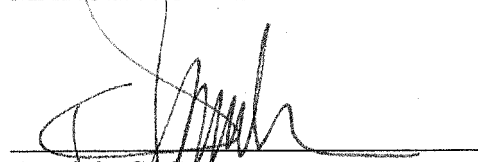
Conclusion

The applicants request reconsideration and allowance of all remaining claims. The applicants encourage the examiner to call the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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